

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPREME COURT LEARNING CENTER TO HOST MAY 1 LAW DAY ACTIVITIES; TOURS TO EMPHASIZE BICENTENNIAL OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTH AND HIS SUPPORT OF CORE DEMOCRATIC VALUES

Lansing, MI, April 30, 2009 – On May 1, in celebration of the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's 1809 birth, the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center will host Law Day tours with special activities. Students will have the opportunity to both study and quote Lincoln on topics such as freedom, equality and common good as well as hear from docents, guest speakers, judges, and Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly, all of whom will emphasize Lincoln's support of these core democratic values.

Speakers include:

Mr. Larry Nolan of the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society will speak to Wexford Montessori School third- through sixth-grade students at 9:45 a.m.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly will address Kinawa Middle School eighth-graders at 10:45 a.m.

At the invitation of the Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary, middle school essay contest winners from across the state, along with their families and teachers, will tour the Learning Center at 11 a.m. Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly will be the keynote speaker during a noon luncheon in their honor. "Writing so your audience clearly understands your message is so important. I applaud these young students for their effort," said Chief Justice Kelly, who taught French before pursuing her legal career.

Judge Thomas Boyd, 55th District Court in Mason, will address Wexford Montessori School students at 12:30 p.m.

Supreme Court counsel Michael Gadola will address Linden Elementary fourth-graders at 12:45 p.m.

At 1:45 p.m., the Honorable Richard D. Ball of 54B District Court in East Lansing will share Law Day views with fifth-graders from St. Michael's School in Grand Ledge.

Other activities include students searching for Lincoln on the tails side of pennies and a display of about 25 Law Day posters designed by Wexford Montessori students.

The Michigan Hall of Justice is located at 925 West Ottawa Street, Lansing. Contact Rachael Drenovsky at drenovskyr@courts.mi.gov or (517) 373-5027. Additional Learning Center information is available at <http://www.courts.mi.gov/plc/>.

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